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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Application of: Marlowe *et al.*

Application No.: 10/734,063

Confirmation No. 9078

Filed: December 10, 2003

Group Art Unit: 1631

For: AUTOMATED SYSTEM AND METHOD
FOR PREPARING AN ASSAY READY
BIOLOGICAL SAMPLE

Examiner: Jason M. Sims

Attorney Docket No.: 9301-232-999

REPLY UNDER 37 C.F.R § 1.111 WITH AMENDMENT

Mail Stop Amendment
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In response to the outstanding Office Action dated May 14, 2009, please enter the amendments and consider the remarks below in connection with the above-identified patent application. Submitted concurrently herewith are (a) Second Supplemental Information Disclosure Statement; (b) a List of References Cited, listing Ref. C01-C02; (c) an Amendment Fee Transmittal Sheet; (d) a Petition for Extension of Time under 37 C.F.R. § 1.136(a) for a period of two (2) months from August 14, 2009 to October 14, 2009, accompanied by the appropriate fee; and (e) Exhibits A and B.

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 2 of this paper.

Remarks/Arguments begin on page 5 of this paper.